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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 427  
By Burchett

A RESOLUTION To honor Tim Irwin, former University of Tennessee star football player, on his induction into the Knoxville Sports Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, Only a select group of the best athletes are selected for induction into the prestigious Knoxville Sports Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, In August 2001, the illustrious name of Tim Irwin, former University of Tennessee football standout, will join this elite roll of honor; and

WHEREAS, This versatile athlete first gained widespread recognition when he played for Central High School, where he was chosen All-State in football and All-East Tennessee in basketball; and

WHEREAS, Tim played football for the University of Tennessee for five productive years, being named Academic All-Southeastern Conference in 1979 and Academic All-American and Academic All-Southeastern Conference in 1980; and

WHEREAS, In 1980/1981, he was the University of Tennessee Athlete of the Year; and

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WHEREAS, A true student-athlete, Tim graduated with honors from the University of Tennessee in 1980 with a degree in Political Science; and

WHEREAS, He received an NCAA post-graduate scholarship to attend law school and received his Law degree from the University of Tennessee in May 1990; and

WHEREAS, In 1990, he was also named to the University of Tennessee 100 Years of Volunteers All-Time Team; and

WHEREAS, Tim played in the National Football league for 14 memorable seasons, from 1981-1993, he was a member of the Minnesota Vikings; and

WHEREAS, While with the Vikings, he had the longest consecutive game streak as a starter, playing in an incredible 197 straight games; and

WHEREAS, In 1986, Tim was honored as the NFL Offensive Lineman of the Year; and

WHEREAS, The Knoxville Sports Hall of Fame named him Professional Athlete of the Year in 1989; and

WHEREAS, In 1994, he played for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the Miami Dolphins; and

WHEREAS, The Vikings' fans chose him as one of only 26 players to be a member of the Minnesota Vikings 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Team in November 2000; and

WHEREAS, Tim Irwin has generously given of his time and leadership through service as the President of the Corporate Board of the Knoxville Boys and Girls Club, and as host of a popular bass tournament to benefit the Club for the last 13 years; and

WHEREAS, Tim Irwin is an Attorney and Sports Agent and lives in Knoxville with his wife, Sharon, and their children, Mallory, Conor and Logan; and

WHEREAS, It is appropriate that we pause in our deliberations to specially honor Tim Irwin on being inducted into the Knoxville Sports Hall of Fame; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate Tim Irwin for his many accomplishments both on and off the gridiron, and wish him well in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.